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LETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Kuwait dated 2 December 1991 contained in document S/23260, I wish to state the following:

1. The Iraqi police posts that were the subject of the above-mentioned letter were not established after 2 August 1990 but have been in their current positions for a long time. The Kuwaiti side cannot deny this fact.

2. The Kuwaiti side itself has not abided by the principle of "reasonable distance" laid down by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), inasmuch as it recently proceeded to set up 20 border police posts, some of them less than 1,000 metres to the south of the borderline established on the UNIKOM map.

3. Most of the violations that have occurred in the demilitarized zone have been caused by the Kuwaiti side, as was confirmed by the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on UNIKOM (S/23106).

4. The representative of Kuwait has no right to talk about violation of territorial sovereignty while admitting that the location of all the police posts would be settled by the Boundary Demarcation Commission.

While affirming its full commitment to the principle of cooperation with the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission with a view to the successful discharge of its mandate, my Government considers that the basic thrust of the letter of the representative of Kuwait forms part of the well-known attempts of the Kuwaiti regime to register fallacious and groundless allegations against Iraq in order to provoke the continued imposition of economic sanctions on Iraq, on the pretext that it is not fully complying with Security Council resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative